

## IDAHO PRESS-TRIBUNE

**Monday**

### **Nampa High senior may be next Bill Gates; Achievements: Colin Redifer will have earned three professional computer certifications while in high school**

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By Adam Rush - Idaho Press-Tribune

NAMPA — Colin Redifer is the well-rounded kind of student colleges dream about. Colleges like the University of Idaho, which named him an Idaho Top Scholar when he was a junior.

His academic potential was recognized at an early age. Dana Stowell, who taught Redifer when the young scholar was in first grade, described him as a serious student.

"Even at that young age, I realized he had great academic potential," she said. "He was one of the most studious and self-motivated youngsters I ever taught. He was a super young man, still is."

Those characteristics have stayed with Redifer, who is a National Honor Society member. Redifer and a team also won fifth place in the nation for a computer presentation at a Business Professionals of America convention in California.

"The area that I competed in was network design team," Redifer said.

The humble young man, 17, also competes on the Nampa High ski team while maintaining a 4.0 grade point average. His classes this year include Calculus, Chemistry II, English, Government, Economics and a computer tech support class. He also has an internship at West Valley Medical Center in Caldwell, where he helps with computer repair and trouble shooting.

Ray Born, who teaches technology classes at Skyview High School where Redifer has his computer internship, said the high school senior has helped him fine-tune computer and technology classes.

"I use him a lot to determine where we need to change structure and to make things better in the classroom," Born said. "He's been a real help during the last two years. The feedback he provides is really good."

Born said Redifer also sets and accomplishes goals.

"Colin has his A+ certification, his Network+ certification and this year he's working on his Server+ certification," Born said. "I wish I had a classroom full of him. It'd keep me challenged."

Redifer plans on challenging himself after high school graduation. He has applied at Oregon State University in Corvallis, where he plans on studying chemical engineering.

The Redifer file

Name: Colin Redifer

Age: 17

School: Senior at Nampa High School

Family: Parents, Roy and Dianna Redifer; sister, Lindsay Redifer; brother, Cameron Lindsay.

Activities: Nampa High School ski team, computer internship at West Valley Medical Center in Caldwell.

Recognitions: Member of the National Honor Society, named an Idaho Top Scholar by the University of Idaho.